

29 JUNE 1975

Letters to the editor

Families' reply to Star story

The *New York Times* story which ran on the front page of yesterday's *Star*, suggesting that members of the Noyes, Kauffmann and Adams families on the *Star* company board of directors are trying to close the newspaper, is grossly false and unfair.

On the contrary, the effort of all members of the boards, old and

new, is and always has been to save the paper. It was in such a spirit, when it became clear that this effort was beyond the financial capacity of the original owning families alone, that Joe Allbritton was brought into the picture. Since his arrival on the scene, the rejuvenation and strengthening of the newspaper has proceeded, with strong

prospects of eventual success. The families associated with the newspaper for over 100 years are betting what for them is a great deal of money that, under Mr. Allbritton's direction, the *Star* will survive and prosper as a great newspaper, and as an important part of the Washington community.

There are, of course, differences of opinion as to how this best can be accomplished, and how much stockholders with varying resources can afford to bet on the outcome. But it would be a sad misreading of the situation to suppose that I and my associates on the boards could contemplate with equanimity the death of an institution to which we, like previous generations of these families, have devoted our lives.

Newbold Noyes